

# City Okays \$4,433,304 Budget, Cuts Bus Service

LARGEST HOME DELIVERY BY FAR

Herald Phone Numbers

- FAX 8-8164—For Society.
- FAX 8-4000—For General News, Circulation.
- FAX 8-4000—For Classified. Ask for Ad-Taker.

California's Greatest Semi-Weekly — Every Sunday and Thursday

## Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

IN THE HERALD TODAY

Ann Landers .....	11	Reg Manning .....	2
Comics .....	30	Society .....	11-13
Crossword .....	17	Sports .....	37
Garden Checklist .....	10	Star Gazer .....	26
Obituaries .....	8	Want Ads .....	38-43

49th Year—No. 53 ★ ★ ★

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1959

44 PAGES

10¢ Per Copy

# POLICE SMASH HOT CHECK RING

### A Penny for your Thoughts

"Do you think the city bus lines should be operated so they pay for themselves, or should the taxpayers underwrite the costs of bus services through subsidies for the city's general fund?"

That was the question the HERALD'S inquiring photographer asked several persons in Torrance this week. Their pictures and answers appear below:

**ROBERT GRAY, 1415 Amalpa, plastics engineer:**

"I ride the buses every day. Many of the regular passengers would lose their jobs if the bus service had to be curtailed because of a deficit. Inasmuch as it is a service for the city, I feel that the city should assist it in a financial emergency to maintain the good-will of the local residents."

**M. L. ERICKSON, 1814 Calamar, self-employed:**

"I feel that the bus lines should be self-supporting. We pay too much taxes already, without having to also support a private enterprise."

**PAUL NARVESON, 21409 Kent Ave., oil accountant:**

"I go along with underwriting the bus line if necessary for the simple reason that we don't have enough public transportation as it is, without curtailing it further."

**MAURICE NARVESON, of Minneapolis, Minn., producer:**

"From the experience I've had in Minnesota I've learned that, despite my antipathy towards subsidizing in all other cases, that when it comes to public transportation it's necessary. Otherwise the service to the public suffers."

**SYDNEY BARRON, Los Angeles, sales:**

"If it's privately owned, there should be no tax assessment. The bus company must support itself."

### Hearing Scheduled For Check Suspect

Arraignment of Madeline May Williams, 24, of Harbor City on eight counts of forgery has been scheduled for July 17 in Inglewood Superior Court.

The suspect was arrested at her home at 1335 Anaheim St. Friday by Manhattan Beach detectives who reported finding 21 checks totaling \$855 in her possession.



**PROGRESS REPORT . . .** The Rev. Mother Lucy of Little Company of Mary shows sketch of the hospital now nearing completion at Torrance Blvd. and Earl St. to Robert L. Plomert Jr. (l) general chairman of the hospital's advisory board; and Sam Levy, chairman of the fund raising campaign, during a breakfast meeting Tuesday to salute the hospital. (Herald Photo)

## Completion of New Hospital Due in Fall, Chamber Told

Finishing touches now are being put on the beautiful, contemporary design 150 bed Little Company of Mary Hospital in Torrance. Completion is scheduled for early this fall.

That, in essence, was the report given to members of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce at its June breakfast meeting here Tuesday morning.

The five story, four wing, reinforced concrete and stucco building will cost about \$3,500,000. It is located on a 10 acre site at Torrance Blvd. at Earl St., and will be operated by the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary. The order was founded in 1877 at Nottingham, England.

Every medical and surgical facility needed to care for the surrounding communities adequately has been incorporated in the hospital, including 24 hour emergency service for all accident and injury patients.

**THE HOSPITAL** was designed by Architects Gene

Verge and R. N. Clatworthy, AIA, to meet all community needs and to provide the ultimate in patient care for both residents and employees in business and industry.

Construction was started in January, 1958, by Steed Brothers, general contractor, with Roy Radford of Whitier, construction superintendent. Mr. George Laverenz of Torrance is supervisor for the Little Company of Mary.

**A GENEROUS** use of glass with aluminum window sash and terrazzo tile flooring has been used throughout the building. The exterior will be painted.

The medical staff is headed by Dr. John A. Wilson, M.D., Manhattan Beach, as president, with a total of 150 staff members. The acceptance of the staff was announced by Mother M. Genevieve, president of the board of directors.

Mother M. Genevieve of Evergreen Park, near Chicago, is



**EXECUTIVE HONORED . . .** Fred W. Mill (l), who is ending his term as president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, is presented a plaque by Past President O. R. Trueblood. The presentation took place during a Chamber breakfast meeting Tuesday morning. (Herald Photo)

## Local Printer Held in Case

A gang which police charge with passing counterfeit and forged checks valued at more than \$12,000 in area supermarkets since the first of the year has been jailed following a series of raids yesterday and Tuesday night.

A Torrance printer, Richard Vernon Florence, 34, who operated a printing plant at 1839 Torrance Blvd., was jailed by Torrance police who arrested him at his Torrance home.

Arrested Tuesday night in Hermosa Beach were Inez Moore Graham, 39, of 902-C Manhattan Beach Blvd., and Gerald F. Beers, 58, and Evelyn H. Beers, 47, of 320 Bayview, Hermosa Beach.

**ARRESTED** yesterday in a San Pedro laundry where he was employed was Robert Louie Ives, 43, an ex-convict.

Ives and the Graham woman were named by police as the brains of the operation. All but Ives have admitted their part in the racket.

Investigations and arrest of the gang was under the direction of Sgts. Al Barr and Leonard Kemp of the Los Angeles Police Department's central forgery detail. Torrance Police Sgt. Mickey Fisher assisted in the local end of the investigations.

**THE PLAN**, as described by Fisher yesterday, involved a series of at least four different counterfeit and fictitious checks.

In one case, checks drawn on the U. S. Borax and Chemical Corp. began appearing last month. The checks were all made out to an employee of the firm and were printed to appear identical to the genuine payroll checks of the company.

**CHECKING** back on the original payee, police found that a bartender, who wasn't further identified by officers, had "loaned" the check to

members of the gang long enough for them to set up a copy of it and have it printed at the Torrance printing firm. The original check was then returned to the bartender who sent it on through to the bank.

**IN OTHER** cases, Fisher said, checks were drawn on fictitious firms, one of them Culver Associates. Checks also were drawn on Burk and Reynolds Construction Co.

In addition to printing the bogus checks, Florence is accused of printing fake identifications for the passers, including drivers licenses and other personal papers.

**THE BEERS** apparently were used to pass much of the hot paper, and all of them probably passed some at one time or another since last January, police say.

Ives, who has also used the name "James T. Dougherty" has served prison terms at San Quentin, and in Michigan and Texas, the L.A. police officers said.

### Herald Offices Closed Saturday

In observance of Independence Day, the offices of the HERALD will be closed Saturday. The Sunday edition will be delivered as usual Sunday morning.

All advertising and news deadlines have been advanced one day for Sunday's issue to meet publication schedules.

## Widow Gets \$90,000 For Husband's Death

A judgment for \$90,000 has been awarded Mrs. John Stoddard, 3209 Antonio, for the death of her husband early last year following an oil well accident near Sacramento.

The award was made last week in a San Francisco Superior Court and was reported to be the highest such award made there this year.

Mrs. Stoddard, who was represented by Harry L. Gershon of Beverly Hills, sought the damages on behalf of herself and her two children, John Richard, 15, and Kathleen Sue, who will soon be 11.

Named defendants in the suit were Richard and Donald S. Rheem and Wesley Lee Hamilton. They were charged with the wrongful death of Mr. Stoddard as the result of an accident at a well site at Willows in September, 1957. He died the following February without regaining consciousness.

The jury trial took seven days and the jury deliberated nearly seven hours before returning the verdict in favor of Mrs. Stoddard.

Stoddard was a sales-engineer for the National Supply Co. at the time of his fatal injuries.



**RESCUE EFFORTS . . .** Torrance Fireman Leo Manning mans resuscitator equipment in an effort to save the life of 12-year-old Johnny Dowe of 20954 Halldale Ave. The boy was pronounced dead later at Harbor General Hospital. (Herald Photo)

## 12-Year-Old Rope Victim

A 12-year-old boy who was found hanging in the garage of his parents' home here yesterday by his 10-year-old brother, was pronounced dead at Harbor General Hospital later despite efforts of a fire rescue squad to save his life.

Dead is Johnny Dowe, of 20954 Halldale Ave., son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Dowe. An athlete and Stephen M. White Junior High School student, the Dowe boy was found hanging from a rope suspended from a rafter of the garage attached to the family home. A stool nearby had been tipped over.

**WHETHER** the lad took his life deliberately or had been experimenting with the rope could not be determined immediately.

Close friends of the family describe Johnny as a happy boy who was looking forward to attending the American Legion fireworks show in the Coliseum Saturday night and to a two week vacation with his grandparents at Lake Hughes starting next week.

**NO ONE** can believe his death was anything but accidental, the HERALD was told by Ray Sloan, Torrance advertising executive and close friend of the Dowe family. It was Mrs. Sloan, who was called by the victim's mother, who cut him down. The Sloans live at 20946 Halldale Ave.

## City Engineer Post Goes To West Covinan

Appointment of Walter M. Nollac, 32, as city engineer for Torrance was announced here this week by City Manager George Stevens.

Nollac, who has been assistant city engineer for West Covina for the past four years, will assume his duties here on Aug. 3. He received his training at SC and was with the U. S. Navy as an officer in the Pacific during World War II.

The new city engineer placed first on civil service examinations given recently for the post, Stevens said.

Nollac will move to Torrance in the near future with his wife, Jerriane, and children Melinda, 8½, Gene 6½, and Lori Anne, 5.

### Meets President

Mrs. Jack C. Meyers of 3330 Cricklewood St. had a thrilling experience yesterday when she met Pres. Dwight Eisenhower at the White House in Washington. She was introduced to the president by her father, Rep. Frank J. Berger, Republican member of congress, New York.



**READY FOR SHOW . . .** Normandale Playground directors Y. F. Pammatt and Florja Jensen watch with children from the 224th and Halldale park as firemen from Engine Co. 79 demonstrate with firecracker props how they will put on a fireworks display after sundown Saturday. (Herald Photo)